



THE STORY OF WESTERN-HARJU MUNICIPALITY



WESTERN-HARJU IN NUMBERS

- Area 644 km²
- Inhabitants 12 909
- 52 settlements
- 9 schools
- 10 kindergartens
- 1087 enterprises



ADMINISTRATIVE RE

State Government decision to involuntarily merge five municipalities

Secession of Keila town

Padise lawsuit

Strong personalities

Different inheritance and vision of previous municipalities



MUNICIPALITY THAT WAS BORN OVERNIGHT

The beginning was overnight

Vast amount of controversies

- Paldiski (urban) *versus* (rural) areas
- estonian *versus* russian community
- seasonal vacationers *versus* permanent residents
- Developed *versus* underdeveloped regions



WESTERN-HARJU MUNICIPALITY

- Administrative centre in Paldiski
- Service points in Keila, Padise and Vasalemma
- Over 70 public servants today
- Budget 19 million EUR



WE ASPIRE TO BE THE BEST BACKGROUND FORCE

Openness and transparency

- open and inclusive management
- Balance between different political views
- balance between entrepreneurs and citizens

Cooperation with State and entrepreneurs

Focus on opportunities, not limitations

Good image of Paldiski and the region



PARADISE FOR CITIZENS, ENTREPRENEURS AND TOURISTS

Diverse and exciting region

- Agriculture and forestry
- Industry (Paldiski, Vasalemma)
- Fishing (the whole coastal area)
- Harbours (the whole coastal area)
- Ports (Paldiski)
- Tourism (From Keila-Joa to Keibu bay, from Laulasmaa Spa to Pakri lighthouse, Rummu lake, Padise monastery)
- Military area (Ämari)



BIGGER OBJECTIVES

LIVING ENVIRONMENT

TRANSPORT AND MOBILITY

COOPERATION WITH
COMMUNITIES



WESTERN-HARJU LARGEST INVESTMENTS 2019

- Türisalu-Laulasmaa public water supply and sewerage
- Laulasmaa school extension
- Padise monastery
- Paldiski town central square
- Bike and pedestrian roads
- Keila area and Paldiski street lighting
- Rummu living environment and kindergarten



WESTERN-HARJU AND SWEDISH HERITAGE

- The Pakri islands (swedish origin name Rogöy) were first mentioned in a letter from Danish king in 1283. When the first swedes inhabited the islands no one knows.
- During the first independence of Estonia there was a Pakri municipality on the islands that was inhabited by 354 people in 1934. No Estonians lived there.
- In 1940 all the inhabitants of the islands were forced to leave their homes (they went back to Sweden) and the islands were turned into a bombing field for Soviet army.



PAKRI ISLANDS TODAY

- The last bombing of the islands was in 1992. Pakri islands were returned to Estonia in May 1994.
- Today there are 15 inhabitants on the Väike-Pakri island. No one lives on Suur-Pakri
- Some of them are the descendants of the original swedes who left in 1940.
- During navigation season we have a regular boat between mainland and Väike-Pakri
- Today the islanders raise cattle and the islands are a attractive destination for hikers and military tourism



WELCOME TO WESTERN-HARJU

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